S/N Unknown PATENT

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Christophe Pierrat et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.:

Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed:

Herewith

Docket: 303.311US2

Title:

METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING PRINTING OF A PHASE SHIFT MASK

HAVING A PHASE SHIFT ERROR

# PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

When the above-identified patent application is taken up for consideration, please amend the application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, line 5, before "This invention" please insert the sentence, +This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/031,639 filed February 27, 1998--.

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-22 without prejudice.

#### REMARKS

Claims 2-22 are canceled hereby. Claim 1 is now pending. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney at 612-371-2111 to discuss any questions which may remain with respect to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTOPHE PIERRAT ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Thereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Shawn Hise

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